

transfer of All India Services have been relaxed in the case of single women All India Services Officers allotted to the Northeastern cadres of Assam-Meghalaya, Manipur-Tripura and Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir. It has also been decided not to allot women officers to these cadres for a period of 5 years from 1990.

- (ii) Guidelines have been issued regarding posting of husband and wife, as far as possible, at the same station.
- (iii) Rules relating to grant of leave in continuation of maternity leave have been made liberal.
- (iv) T.V. serials have been telecast over the national net work commending the role played by women officers in Civil Services.

Action against Hoarding and Black Marketing

3116. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to gear up their vigilance and enforcement agencies to give information and take firm action against hoarding and black marketing and similar economic offences :

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to help and assist the State Government in checking the black marketing and the economic offences in the States ; and

(d) if so, how many States have taken up steps in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Central Government has advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to intensify their vigilance and enforcement activities for taking firm action against hoarders and similar economic offenders.

(c) and (d) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are already engaged in taking action to check blackmarketing and other similar economic offences, in terms of provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and other relevant legislations.

Changes in the Eighth Plan

3117. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to modify and redraft the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken a number of initiatives in consultation with the State Governments for effecting changes in the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has also been consulted in regard to the schemes which concern Karnataka State and are to be taken up during the Eighth Five Year Plan ; and

(d) if so, the allocations proposed for Karnataka during the Eighth Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) The Eighth Plan will be finalised taking into account the existing approach paper document and the current economic situation. Sectoral priorities and allocations will be indicated in the Eighth Plan document on the basis of the reformulated proposals about schemes and programmes for which the Central Ministries and the State Governments, including the Government of Karnataka, have been requested.

Shortage of Foodgrains

3118. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a great shortage of foodgrains in the food reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the reserve position of foodgrains during 1989-90 and 1990-91 and the latest position till date;

(c) whether the shortage of foodgrains has resulted in increase in their prices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The stock position of foodgrains with the public agencies was of the order of 13.05 million tonnes, 20.31 million tonnes and 21.07 million tonnes respectively as on 1st July of 1989, 1990 and 1991.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) and (b) above.

Translation.

Refund of Advance Deposits to Consumers

3119. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that M/s. Lohia Machines Limited have not made the refund of advance deposits to the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount outstanding for payment to consumers and the time by which this payment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Govt. are aware that there has been undue delay by M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd. in making refund of the advance deposits on cancellation of the bookings by the customers.

(b) and (c) The company has reported that as on 30-6-91, they have refunded full advance with applicable interest in 8,99,090 cases and made part payment with interest in 98,572 cases. A total of Rs. 85 crores has already been refunded. According to the company, 4,13,080 requests for refund, involving Rs. 30.89 crores are still pending. Out of this, in 98,572 requests, only part payment of principal alongwith applicable interest rate is involved. The company has not been able to make refunds in all the pending cases due to unforeseen circumstances that severely affected its liquidity position. The company expects to clear the pending requests in the next 3-4 years and have confirmed that while extinguishing their liability, they shall pay interest as applicable.